

REMARKS

Claims 27, 28, and 31-33, as amended, remain herein. Claims 1-26, 29 and 30 also remain herein, but are presently withdrawn from consideration.

1. Responsive to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Species 18, claims 27, 28, and 31-33, with traverse.

The Election of Species requirement is traversed because the subject matter of all of claims 1-33 is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Thus, search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits." This policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicant and unnecessary duplicative examination by the USPTO.

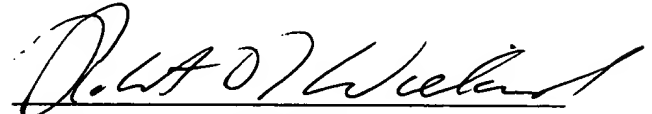
2. Claim 33 has been amended to depend from claim 27.

Should the Examiner deem that any further amendments would be desirable in placing this application in even better condition for issue, he is invited to telephone applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

October 10, 2001
Date


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RWP:RNW/mhs

Attachment: Version with Markings
to Show Changes Made

Attorney Docket No. HYAE:082

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33. (Twice Amended) A data recording medium containing an image processing program, which makes a computer execute image processing in the image processing method defined in [any of claims 1] claim 27.